

Social Security Administration
Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance
Notice of Reconsideration

Date:

Claim Number:

Local Social Security Office:

Telephone:

Address:

We're writing to let you know that we have made a disability hearing decision on your case.

Our Decision

The hearing decision is attached to this letter. Our decision deals only with whether you are disabled. If our decision causes a change in your benefits, you will get another letter.

If you agree with our decision, you don't have to do anything.

If You Disagree With The Decision

If you disagree with the decision, you have the right to request a hearing. A person who has not seen your case before will look at it. That person is an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The ALJ will review your case again and consider any new facts you have before deciding your case.

- You have 60 days to ask for a hearing.
- The 60 days start the day after you receive this letter. We assume you got this letter 5 days after the date on it unless you show that you did not get it within the 5-day period.

Enclosures:

Disability Hearing Officer's Decision:

SSA Pub. No. 70-10281

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- You must have a good reason for waiting more than 60 days to ask for a hearing.
- You have to ask for a hearing in writing. We will ask you to sign a form HA-501-U5, called "Request for Hearing." Contact one of our offices if you want help.

Please read the enclosed pamphlet, "Your Right to an Administrative Law Judge Hearing and Appeals Council Review of Your Social Security Case." It contains more information about the hearing.

How A Hearing Works

A hearing works like this:

- The ALJ will tell you the time and place for the hearing.
- The ALJ will explain the law in your case. The ALJ will state the known facts and tell you what has to be decided.
- You can tell the ALJ why you think we're wrong. You can give the ALJ more facts. And you can bring people to say why you're right.
- The ALJ can make people come to your hearing and bring important papers. You can question these people at the hearing.
- We'll ask if you want to go to the hearing in person. If you say you want to go, you should attend if at all possible. If you change your mind or if you can't get to the hearing you should tell us. You should know that your being there may help the ALJ decide your case.

If You Want Help With Your Appeal

You can have a friend, lawyer, or someone else help you. There are groups that can help you find a lawyer or give you free legal services if you qualify. There are also lawyers who do not charge unless you win your appeal. Your local Social Security office has a list of groups that can help you with your appeal.

If you get someone to help you, you should let us know. If you hire someone, we must approve the fee before he or she can collect it. And if you hire a lawyer, we will withhold up to 25 percent of any past due Social Security benefits to pay toward the fee.

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If You Have Any Questions

If you have any questions, call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213. We can answer most questions over the phone. You can also write or visit any Social Security office. The address and telephone number of the office that serves your area is shown on page 1.

If you do call or visit an office, please have this letter with you. It will help us answer your questions.

Regional Commissioner